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EAST KENT (No.3) UNITED DISTRICTS JOINT COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR

1954

ON THE

HEALTH AND SANITARY CONDITION

OF THE

BOROUGH OF HYTHE,
RURAL DISTRICT OF EAST ASHFORD,
RURAL DISTRICT OF ELHAM,
RURAL DISTRICT OF WEST ASHFORD.

BY

HILDA K. BRADE-BIRKS, M.Sc., M.B.,
Ch.B., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D. P. H.

Medical Officer of Health

EAST KENT (No.3) UNITED DISTRICT.

ANNUAL REPORT.

on the Health and Sanitary Conditions
of the Hythe Borough, East Ashford Rural
District, Elham Rural District and
West Ashford Rural District.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1954.

POPULATION.

The Registrar-General's estimated population for the united district under review was 39,250 compared with 38,880 for the previous year. There has been a tendancy for the population to show an increase over the last few years and during 1954 it rose by 370.

VITAL STATISTICS.

1. BIRTH RATE.

The adjusted live birth rate for the joint areas was 14.4 per 1,000 resident population. The rate for England and Wales was 15.2. The still birth rate per 1,000 (live and still births) was 25.0 and that for England and Wales was 24.0.

2. DEATHS.

The death rate - adjusted for age and sex distribution - for the four areas for 1954 was 11.49 per 1,000 estimated resident population and that for England and Wales was 11.3. We have two County Hospitals for old persons in the joint area which considerably increases the death rate in Elham Rural District and West Ashford Rural District but this is ofset by the very low rate in East Ashford Rural and Hythe Borough; the resulting death rate for the joint areas is only slightly above that for England and Wales and is less than in 1953.

Infant Mortality Rate.

This rate (adjusted) was 18.6 per 1,000 (live and still) births and that for England and Wales was 25.5.

Deaths from Accident.

Road Accidents.

No deaths to residents in the four areas occurred, but the number of road accidents which took place in our districts,(612), exceeded those of the previous year by 52 and 7 persons were killed and 88 seriously injured. A further 258 persons received slight injury. Of those killed one was a child and of those receiving serious injury 6 were children. An active campaign was carried out in all our areas-to try by education, road improvements and publicity generally - to prevent such accidents occurring.

May I express my thanks to the Chief Constable of Kent for making available to me his records of road accidents in 1954.

Other Accidents.

There were 8 deaths recorded under this classification - 5 Males and 3 Females; 5 of these occurred in persons over 72 years of age.

Infectious Disease.

The incidence of infectious disease has again been low in the district and the figures are very satisfactory - except for a smal outbreak of Acute Poliomyelitis with cases in East and West Ash Rural Districts. 8 cases were notified and 7 were confirmed; th 8th notification concerned a small child who was detained in Hospi for observation but proved to be negative. 3 deaths occurred - al young adults - and all suffered from the severe bulbar type of Acu Poliomyelitis and died shortly after admission to Hospital. Another paralytic case arose in East Ashford Rural District but wa notified in another area as the child had been taken away for a fe days holiday and immediately developed the disease and was removed to Hospital.

There were 38 cases of Scarlet Fever, mainly of a very mild type, and 17 were removed to Hospital. Only 7 cases of Measles were notified and 9 of Pneumonia. There were 202 notifications of Whooping Cough and one case was removed to hospital. There were no outbreaks of Food poisoning or Dysentry, (3 cases of Salmonell infection were notified, 3 of food poisoning of unknown origin and 3 of infection from Sonne Dysentry) One case of Typhoid Fever occurred.

Tuberculosis.

20 new cases were notified - two of these were cases which ha received recovery discharge but were returned to the registers due to a recurrence of infection. 8 cases were removed from the registers on recovery and there were 9 deaths. The death rate fr respiratory tuberculosis for the four areas was 0.20 and that for England and Wales was 0.16. There was one death from non respira tuberculosis.

Housing.

Although there is still a considerable waiting list for house in all the areas I have not received so many appeals for help duri the year under review and the more urgent and distressing cases ha been dealt with. The Molash Camp has been emptied and demolished, and the Hothfield Camp is also now practically cleared; this abolishes our two black spots and relieves the Councils concerned of many problems inherent in the use, for so many years, of tempora huts never intended for permanent habitation. There would appear to be a need for some simple permanent type of dwelling for the us of families who seem to find it difficult to settle and become members of a community.

Care of Old People.

Much planning for the accommodation of ageing persons has bee made by the Kent County Council, by district Councils and by priva persons; many homes of all kinds have been completed during the year and there is definitely less acute distress amongst the aged i our areas. Loneliness is one of the burdens of old age and successful Clubs being run in the areas are helping to combat this. A chiropody service has now become established and is much appreciated by those receiving this necessary treatment. Mr. W.T. Spendlove of Hythe has given 458 Chiropody and Physiotherapy treatm at much reduced rates to the old people of the Hythe Borough and th Elham Rural District. This has involved considerable travelling, and the giving of many hours of his own time, and we are grateful f his help.

In spite of all that is being done there are still many lonely people living under adverse conditions and becoming less and less able to look after themselves, and many others - living with relati are becoming an increasing burden on the younger generation; every effort will be needed to meet their requirements in the near future and the present services will have to be considerably extended.

anitary Circumstances of the Area.

Steady and valuable progress has been made during the year in mproving and extending both main water supplies and drainage, and lans have been laid for more ambitious schemes of main drainage in he three rural areas.

ood.

An increased awareness of the need for a clean food supply is vident and standards are gradually improving in food shops, estaurants and public houses. Where structural alterations to uildings are needed to ensure better and cleaner handling of food rogress is naturally slower but many such alterations have already een completed, and more are receiving consideration.

The decontrol of Slaughtering by the Ministry of Food took place n July but the difficulties anticipated did not arise. A meeting f butchers and those concerned with the putting into use of existing nall slaughter houses in the rural areas was called and a helpful scussion took place. These slaughter houses had previously been t into working order, and improved to meet the standards required. e return to private slaughtering has run smoothly and no difficulties ve been reported. Meat inspection is being efficiently carried out our Sanitary Inspectors.

In all areas wrapped Ice Cream is mainly retailed and standards ve been very good.

The general work of the Health Departments has run very smoothly d there has been prompt, helpful and efficient co-operation from l the Councils' departments and I tender my very grateful thanks d appreciation to all their Officers.

As my retirement is due in November, 1955, this will be the st Annual Report I shall have the pleasure of presenting to my uncils and so I should like to take this opportunity of expressing very deep appreciation for all the help and encouragement I have ceived from the Chairmen and individual members of the four Councils. all times, over both personal and official matters, I have received thing but sympathetic, kindly and constructive help and advice for ich I say a very sincere thank you.

I remain, Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

Hilda K. Brade-Birks,
M.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

BOROUGH OF HYTHE.

SECTION A.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1954.

REA:	3,030 acres

POPULATION:

he Registrar-General's estimate of the mid year opulation of the District was 9,320 (9,192 for 953) an increase of 128.

UMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES:	3,057
ATEABLE VALUE:	£101,853
UM REPRESENTED BY PENNY RATE:	£400 (estimated)

TAFF:

hief Sanitary Inspector & Housing anager	Mr. John Plim, Cert.R.S.I., Cert. Meat & Foods Inspector.
dditional Sanitary Inspector	Mr. John Kemp.Cert.R.S.I.
lerk/Typist	Miss R.A. Dray
oreman	Mr. E. Stokes
efuse Collection, efuse Disposal	2 drivers. 8 collectors. 1 tip attendant.
ousing	1 plumber and fitter 1 carpenter 2 painters and general hands 1 assistant fitter.
odent Operator	1

BOROUGH OF HYTHE.

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	M.	F.		Hythe	England and Wale
1. Live Births	108	62	46	Birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	12.3	15.2
(a) Legitimate	105	60	45			
(b) Illegitimate	3	2	1			
2. Still Births	2	2	-	Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	18.1	24.0
(a) Legitimate	2	2	-			
(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-			
3. Deaths	126	56	70	Death rate per 1,000 resident population	8.9	11.3
4. Deaths from Puerperal Causes	-	-	-		-	0.69
(a) Maternal Causes (excluding abortion)	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 (live & still) births	-	0.58
(b) Due to abortion	-	-	-		-	0.11
5. Deaths of Infants under one year of age (all causes)	1	1	-	Rate per 1,000 live births	9.2	25.5
(a) Legitimate	1	1	-			
(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-			
5A. Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age	-	-	-			
6. Deaths from Tuberculosis				Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population		
(a) Respiratory	2	1	1		0.21	0.16
(b) Other Tuberculosis	1	1	-		0.10	0.019
7. Deaths from Cancer						
(a) Cancer of lung and bronchus	3	2	1		0.32	0.36
(b) Other Cancer	23	12	11		2.46	1.66
Deaths from Pneumonia	3	1	2			
Deaths from Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polio-encephalitis)	-	-	-			

BOROUGH OF HYTHE.

Causes of Death, 1954.

	ALL CAUSES	Males 56	Females 70
1.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	1	1
2.	Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	1	-
3.	Syphilitic diseases ...	-	-
4.	Diphtheria ...	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough ...	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections ...	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis ...	-	-
8.	Measles ...	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases...	-	-
10.	Cancer of the stomach ...	1	-
11.	Cancer of lungs and bronchus ...	2	1
12.	Cancer of breast ...	-	2
13.	Cancer of uterus ...	-	2
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms..	11	7
15.	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia (cancer) ...	-	-
16.	Diabetes ...	-	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	7	12
18.	Coronary diseases, Angina ...	12	8
19.	Hypertension with heart disease ...	-	2
20.	Other heart disease ...	12	14
21.	Other circulatory diseases ...	-	2
22.	Influenza ...	-	-
23.	Pneumonia ...	1	2
24.	Bronchitis ...	1	1
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system ...	1	1
26.	Ulcer of the stomach and duodenum ...	-	1
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ...	-	-
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	1	-
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate ...	3	-
30.	Pregnancy, child birth and abortion ...	-	-
31.	Congenital malformation ...	1	1
32.	Other defined and illdefined diseases....	1	11
33	Motor vehicles accidents ...	-	-
34.	All other accidents ...	-	1
35.	Suicide ...	-	-
36.	Homicide and operations of war ...	-	-

The death rate has remained stationary. Only one infant death occurred a M. at 1 month due to malformation of the urinary system.

BOROUGH OF HYTHE.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Laboratory Facilities.

As in previous years these are provided by the Kent County Council's Central Laboratory Maidstone which gives a satisfactory and complete service for the needs of the Borough.

Ambulance.

The Ambulance Service is administered by the County Council and the area is adequately served under this scheme.

Nursing Homes.

The Registration of Nursing Homes is administered by the County Council. There are two Nursing Homes in Hythe, one taking mainly maternity cases and the other mainly surgical and medical cases.

There are also several Residential Homes for old people and Convalescent Homes for young children in the Borough.

Maternity and Child Welfare and Midwifery Services.

The County Council is the authority responsible for these services, and the Hythe Maternity and Child welfare Centre, Prospect Road continues to be used for this purpose.

Diphtheria Immunisations and Vaccinations are carried out at the Centre on every Tuesday afternoon. The attendances have steadily improved during the last two or three years, and good use is made of the many other services provided at the Centre.

SECTION C.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases.

The following table shows details of diseases notified during the year:-

Diseases	No. of cases Notified	No. of cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	1	1	-
Scarlet Fever	9	-	-
Whooping Cough	23	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-
Measles	4	-	-
Pneumonia	4	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	6	1	-
Total	47	2	-

BOROUGH OF HYTHE.

Food Poisoning and Dysentry.

No outbreaks of food poisoning occurred, but one case of Typhoid fever and three cases of Salmonella Typhi Murium were notified and three of Shigella Sonnei infection. Two of the cases of Salmonella infection were in one family and tinned meat was suspected as being the vehicle of infection but as all the meat was consumed no proof could be obtained. Three other cases of suspected food poisoning occurred in one family - two children and the grandmother - severe colic and collapse followed soon after a meal and all were removed to hospital but recovery was rapid and no ill effects followed. Every effort was made to trace the cause but investigations gave negative results. A case of Typhoid fever occurred in the mother of a large family at the end of 1953; the youngest child developed a mild attack of the disease early in 1954. The other members of the family showed negative stools and remained well.

TUBERCULOSIS 1954.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths				Recoveries			
	Pulm:		Non-Pulm:		Pulm:		Non-Pulm:		Pulm:		Non-Pulm:	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
35.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55.	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
65.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
age not known	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	5	3	-	-	2	-	-	1	1	1	-	-

Total number of cases on the Register at 31.12.54 = 61

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Numbers for 1954	36	24	-	1	61
" " 1953	32	23	-	1	56
" " 1952	31	20	1	2	54
" " 1951	33	22	2	1	58
" " 1950	32	24	2	1	59
" " 1949	27	27	2	2	58
" " 1948	24	25	3	2	54

BOROUGH OF HYTHE.

Immunisation against Diphtheria and Vaccination against Smallpox.

These services are administered by the Kent County Council and the work is carried out at Welfare Centres and by Private Practitioners. Our thanks are again due to the County Medical Officer of Health for his courtesy in making available to us his figures relating to these services.

Immunisation.

During the year 118 children received primary inoculations against Diphtheria and 81 received reinforcing inoculations. A total of 318 children of 0 - 4 years had been immunised by the end of 1954. There is a definite and satisfactory improvement in the numbers receiving protection.

Vaccination.

The number of children under one year of age vaccinated against smallpox was 54. Of the children aged 0 - 4 years 94 received primary vaccination; this shows a slight increase in the number of children protected during the year 1954.

Road Accidents.

There were 107 road accidents during 1954, 14 more than in 1953 and in 32 of these persons received injury. There were no deaths but of those injured 5 received serious injury and 32 slight injury. Of the seriously injured 1 was a young person in the 5 - 15 age group and 5 of the slightly injured belong also to this age group.

Care of Old People.

There is an excellent Club in Hythe and their attractive Club room is well used and has proved a great social asset to the elderly people of the Borough.

A Chiropody service is also provided by Mr. W.F.S. Spendlove, M.C.S.P., M.Ch.S., M.R.I.P.H.H., which is very much appreciated by those receiving treatment. Mr. Spendlove gives much of his time and at a much reduced fee to this service. During 1954 he gave 276 treatments in Hythe through the Red Cross Friendship Club and the Old Folks Clinic.

BOROUGH OF HYTHE.

SECTION D.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

) Water.

The district is supplied by the Council's own water dertaking and the supply has been satisfactory in quality and antity for the need of the static population.

Examinations of samples taken during the Year.

	No.	Bacteriological	No.	Chemical
Raw Water	88	71 good 17 unsatisfactory	24	21 good 3 unsatisfactory
Treated Water	17	17 good	-	-
Total	105		24	

Approximately 99% of the total number of dwelling houses is plied by public water mains and the rest by means of standpipes.

All supplies are chlorinated before entry to the distributing n.

Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

No additions or improvements have been made and no new schemes construction have been brought forward during the year.

(The following sections incorporate the report of the itary Inspector.)

General.

itary Inspections of the Area.
lysis of visits paid.

Inspections for Housing Defects (under Public Health Acts and Housing Acts)	211
Infectious Disease	25
Overcrowding	3
Dustbins	29
Complaints received and investigated	137
Drainage Inspections	54
Drains tested	11
Moveable Dwellings	13
Stables and Stable Yards	5
Piggeries	18
Factories	67
Rats and Mice	15
Refuse Disposal and Collection	143
Offensive Accumulations	14
Revisits to Premises under Notice	95
Interviews with Owners, Builders etc.	135
Verminous Premises	14
Miscellaneous Visits	221

BOROUGH OF HYTHE.

Butchers Shops and Preserved Food Premises	51
Bakers Shops	25
Bakehouses	19
Fishmongers and Poulterers	18
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	37
Grocers and Other Food Shops	128
Fried Fish Shops	14
Dairies and Milk Shops	37
Ice Cream Premises	87
Cafes and Restaurants	73
Meat and Food Inspections:	
Slaughterhouse	687
General	58
Milk Samples	18
" Bottles	15
Detergent Samples	7
Ice Cream Samples	31
Miscellaneous Visits	73
Total Visits	2578

Analysis of Nuisances and Defects Remedied.

Houses:	Roofs	9
	Walls (external)	4
	Chimneys and Stacks	4
	Rainwater Pipes	3
	Gutters	5
	Dampness	7
	Wallplaster	7
	Floors	2
	Windows	8
	Sashcords	4
	Additional Lighting	3
	Additional Ventilation	4
	Doors	5
	Fireplaces	3
	Cooking Ranges	1
	Sink Waste Pipes	3
	Miscellaneous	1
Drainage:	Drains cleared	17
	Drains repaired	6
	New Drains	1
	Other Defects	2
Water Closets:	Repaired	6
	Renewed	2
Dustbins:	New provided	13
Miscellaneous:	Offensive Accumulations	8
Food Premises:	Reconstructed	1
	Redecorated	6
	Cleansed	2
	Washing facilities provided	3
	Hot water supplies provided	2
	Sinks provided	1
	Fittings renewed	1
	Fittings cleansed	2
	Yard paving repaired	1
	Protecting of foodstuffs	2
	W.C's provided	2
Contraventions:	Piggeries	1
	Factories	4

BOROUGH OF HYTHE.

	No. in District	No. of Inspections	No. of Defects Found	No. of Defects remedied
Bakehouses	6	19	-	-
Dairies	4	37	-	-
Ice Cream premises	33	87	-	-
Slaughterhouses	1	687	(public slaughterhouse)	
Other places where food is prepared or sold	66	388	22	22
Factories (other than for food preparation	68	117	5	5

Total No. of inspections of all kinds during the year.....2578
No. of premises connected to main sewers.....2763
No. of premises connected to cesspools..... 118
No. of premises with pail closets..... 4
No. of premises with earth closets or middens..... 2
No. of premises not connected to Public Water supply..... 14
No. of Statutory Notices served..... 2
No. of Informal Notices served..... 49
No. of premises disinfected..... 11

Notices Served	Informal	Formal
Public Health and Housing Acts	37	2
Food and Drugs Act	5	-
Factories Act	4	-
Shops Acts	2	-
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act	1	-

4. Rodent Control.

Treatment of infestation of private dwellings is carried out free of charge but charges are made for rodent control work done at other premises. The following table shows the rodent control work carried out during the year.

	Type of Property				Total
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agri-cultural	All other (including Business)	
Properties inspected					
(a) By notification	6	131	-	7	144
(b) Otherwise	3	10	4	309	326
No. of properties found to be infested by rats:					
major	-	-	-	-	-
minor	8	106	-	4	118
No. of infested properties treated	8	106	-	4	118
No. of treatments (inc.re-treatments)	18	150	-	6	174
No. of properties found to be infested by mice:					
major	-	2	-	1	3
minor	-	12	-	1	13

BOROUGH OF HYTHE.

	Type of Property				Tota
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agri-cultural	All other (including Business)	
No. of infested properties treated	-	14	-	2	16
No. of treatments (inc.re-treatments)	-	17	-	2	19
No. of visits recorded by Rodent Operator	107	880	4	45	1036

Disinfection and Disinfestation.

Details of Disinfections and Disinfestations carried out by the department during the year are given below.

Premises disinfected (after infectious disease)	11
Articles of bedding, etc. disinfected	2
Library Books disinfected	9
Premises treated for fleas	10
" " " cockroaches	2
" " " other vermin	3
Wasp Nests destroyed	96

5. Refuse Collection and Disposal.

No alterations have been made in the Refuse Collection and Disposal services during the year.

A weekly collection from all premises has been maintained.

The land reclamation scheme at Princes Parade has proceeded satisfactorily.

147 cesspool emptyings have been carried out during the year These are done under contract by Messrs. J. Nicholls (Contractors) Ltd., at a charge of £1.7.6d. per load.

The costs of collection and disposal were:-

	per 1000 population	per ton
Refuse Collection	£489	£2. 0. 2d.
Refuse Disposal	£45	2. 2d.

Salvage.

The income from salvage sales during the year is as follows:-

	Tons	Cwts	Qrs	Lbs	£	s.	d
Waste Paper	13	13	2	5	42	3	6
Kitchen Waste	75	6	-	-	360	0	0
Taxtiles	-	10	2	1	11	13	9
Metals - Ferrous	3	15	1	10	13	18	9
Metals - Non Ferrous	-	-	4	20	5	8	5
					£433	4	5

BOROUGH OF HYTHE.

SECTION E.

FOOD.

(a) Milk and Dairies.

The Registrations and Licences issued by this Authority during the year are as follows:-

Registered Dairies	4
Registered Distributors	7
Tuberculin Tested - Dealer's Licence	3
Pasteurised - Dealer's Licence	3
Tuberculin Tested - Supplementary Dealer's Licence	4
Pasteurised - Supplementary Dealer's Licence	4

The following samples under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1949 were taken during the year:-

	Samples Taken	Unsatisfactory
Tuberculin Tested Milk	10	1
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised Milk	3	nil
Pasteurised Milk	5	nil
Milk Bottles	7	2
Cleansing Fluids	5	1

The milk is tested for keeping quality and Milk Bottles and Cleansing Fluids are submitted for tests of sterility. Appropriate action was taken on all unsatisfactory reports.

Two small distributors have ceased business during the year.

The development of large scale High Temperature Short Time pasteurising and bottling plants has led to further concentration of the milk distributing industry which has now been steadily going on for a number of years. During this year, of three registered distributors who up to now have been Pasteurising Plant Operators, one pasteurises and bottles a small proportion of his total distribution while the remainder of the milk is pasteurised and bottled outside the district.

It is understood that a survey of the South Eastern Area, which includes the Borough of Hythe, is being made with a view to making an Order under the Food and Drugs (Milk, Dairies and Artificial Cream) Act, 1950. Under this Order, if made, dairymen will be allowed to sell only special designated milk both inside and outside the area.

(b) Ice Cream.

The following samples of ice cream were taken for bacteriological examination under the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947.

	Samples	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Wrapped	2	2	-	-	-
Part Wrapped	11	11	-	-	-
Unwrapped(from bulk containers)	18	15	-	3	-

There are 33 premises where ice cream is stored and sold.

BOROUGH OF HYTHE.

(c) Meat (Home Killed).
Public Slaughterhouse.

The release of the Ministry of Food's control of slaughtering referred to in the last report took place in July, and the Minister of Food in Circular MF5/54 invited all Local Authorities to take the following principles into account when considering licencing and provision of slaughterhouses after decontrol.

1. The long term policy of moderate concentration of slaughtering facilities will remain although it may take some years to apply.
2. Until this policy comes into effect Local Authorities will be responsible for seeing that sufficient slaughtering accommodation will be available after decontrol and should consult with local interests concerned.

Several meetings were held with the local Meat Traders Association regarding the way in which the Public Slaughterhouse could best be operated in the interests of the local trade and consumers, and also to consider if any slaughterhouses in addition to the Public Slaughterhouse would be required.

It had been reported that three small slaughterhouses had been licenced for use by the Elham Rural District Council. The trade interests concerned expressed the view that the Public Slaughterhouse would provide sufficient slaughtering accommodation for the local trade, i.e. the area covered by the Folkestone, Hythe & District Meat Traders Association, It was also agreed that in order to use the slaughterhouse to its full capacity and to ensure that each user has equal share of its use the slaughterhouse should be staffed and managed by the Folkestone, Hythe and District Meat Traders Association who formed a Company to take a lease of the premises for that purpose.

This arrangement has worked very satisfactorily and has ensure a very smooth changeover from Government control to private trading

The number of animals killed at the Public Slaughterhouse in 1954 was:-

	Ministry of Food control January to June	Private Slaughtering July to Dec.	Total
Cattle	1504	567	2071
Calves	237	1169	1406
Sheep	4167	1156	5323
Pigs	64	4485	4549

The amount of all meat condemned as unfit for human consumption at the Public Slaughterhouse during the year was 10 tons 16 cwts 2 qrs 7½ lbs.

BOROUGH OF HYTHE.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle Exc. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected	1649	422	1406	5323	4549
All Diseases except Tuberculosis.					
Whole carcases condemned	3	1	5	20	9
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	435	89	1	293	208
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis	26.56	21.33	0.43	5.88	4.77
Tuberculosis only.					
Whole carcases condemned	6	6	1	-	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	104	37	-	-	28
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	6.67	10.19	0.07	-	0.66

(d) Meat and Other Foods.

During the year the following food stuffs were surrendered as unsound and unfit for food in shops and other premises where food is prepared or sold.

7 tins	Fish	3 lbs. 11½ ozs.
20 "	Meat	36 lbs. 11 ozs.
36 "	Vegetables	52 lbs.
30 "	Fruit	47 lbs. 10 ozs.
21 "	Milk	17 lbs. 12 ozs.
3 "	Soup	1 lb. 14 ozs.
2 "	Jam	3 lbs.
1 ℔	Marmalade	1 lb. 8 ozs.
4 boxes	Cheese Spread	1 lb. 3½ ozs.
1 jar	Horseradish Sauce	2½ ozs.
3 jars	Pickles	1 lb. 3¾ ozs.
	Dried Prunes	10 lbs.
	Meat - Home Killed	41½ lbs.
	" Imported	1 cwt. 48¼ lbs.
	Fish	20 stone.

BOROUGH OF HYTHE.

(e) Food Shops and Food Handling.

For the third year, I give below a tabulated statement, showing the number of each type of food premises in the district, and the standard in relation to the recommendations of the Council, adopted in 1952, for the equipment of food shops in such a manner as will in all circumstances enable persons employed therein to observe a prope code of cleanliness.

During the year a little progress has been made in providing more facilities in some shops but there are a few where improvement cannot be made at the present time owing to physical difficulties in structure of premises.

	No. in District	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
Butchers	11	1	5	4	1
Bakers & Confectioners	6	3	3	-	-
Cafes & Restaurants	20	4	12	2	2
Fishmongers & Fish Friers	6	-	2	4	-
General, Ice Cream, etc.	25	-	6	17	2
Greengrocers	15	1	2	5	7
Grocers	14	1	9	4	-
Milkshops	3	-	3	-	-
Total	100	10	42	36	12

SECTION F.

HOUSING.

. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.

1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 153

   (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 211

2. (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 21

   (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 39

3. Number of dwelling houses not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 65

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices.

   Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 49

BOROUGH OF HYTHE.

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

A. Proceedings under Public Health Acts

1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied — 2

2. Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices

(a) By Owners — 2
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners — Nil

B. Proceedings under Housing Act

1. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied — Nil

2. Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices

(a) By Owners — Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners — Nil

3. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made — 3

4. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined — 1

5. Number of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings from the owners not to use the houses for habitation were accepted — 2

COUNCIL HOUSES.

394 Council houses were in occupation at the end of the year.

20 Council houses were completed in 1954 making a total of 159 completed since the War.

The houses comprise the following types:-

3 bedrooms	2 bedrooms	1 bedroom
239	114	41

There are also 6 premises providing 8 housing units under requisition. Five properties were derequisitioned during the year and one property, providing 2 housing units, has been purchased by the Council.

Six houses at The Avenue have also been taken over by the Department.

The income of the Repairs Account for the year ending 31st March, 1954, was £3,801. 14. 9d. and the expenditure was £3,359.4.9d. the balance in hand at that date being £2,234.10.8d.

At the end of the year 42 properties were in course of erection comprised as follows:-

20	3	bedroomed	houses
8	2	"	flats
8	1	"	"
6	1	"	bungalows

BOROUGH OF HYTHE.

Plans are in preparation by the Borough Surveyor for twelve houses at Horn Street.

Analysis of list of applications for Council houses at Dec. 1954

No. of applications - 2 or 3 bedroomed houses	187
No. of applications - 1 bedroom flats or bungalows	72
	259

	2 or 3 bedroomed accom.	1 bedroom accom.
Applications from people residing in the Borough who occupy houses or flats	58	29
Applications from people residing in the Borough who live in lodgings	80	18
Applications from people residing outside the Borough who occupy houses or flats	37	14
Applications from people residing outside the Borough who live in lodgings	12	11

SECTION G.

FACTORIES.

One non power factory and four power factories were added to the register during the year, and three non power factories and three power factories were deleted.

The present number of factories is as follows:-

Non power factories (Factories where Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are enforced by Local Authorities)	47
Power factories (Factories not included in the above where Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities	39
Total	86

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

SECTION A.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1954.

AREA:	51,398 acres
POPULATION:	
The Registrar-General's estimate of the mid year population of the District was 10,490 an increase of 60 on last year's figure. (10430)	
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES:	3,539
RATEABLE VALUE:	£49,415
SUM REPRESENTED BY PENNY RATE:	£198 (estimated)

STAFF:

Sanitary Inspector	Mr. R. Stevenson M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Rodent Operator and General Assistant under the Public Health Dept.	Mr. H.C. Simpkins
Clerical Assistant (part time)	Miss A. Williams
Driver Loaders (Refuse and Salvage)	Mr. W.J. Holmes Mr. L. Woolley.

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	M.	F.		East Ashford R.D.	England and Wa
1. Live Births	150	77	73	Birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	16.0	15.2
(a) Legitimate	145	75	70			
(b) Illegitimate	5	2	3			
2. Still Births	4	1	3	Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	25.9	24.0
(a) Legitimate	3	1	2			
(b) Illegitimate	1	-	1			
3. Deaths	97	51	46	Death rate per 1,000 resident population	6.37	11.3
4. Deaths from Puerperal Causes	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 (live & still) births	-	0.69
(a) Maternal Causes (excluding abortion)	-	-	-		-	0.58
(b) Due to abortion	-	-	-		-	0.11
5. Deaths of Infants under one year of age (all causes)	3	1	2	Rate per 1,000 live births	20.0	25.5
(a) Legitimate	3	1	2			
(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-			
5A. Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age	2	1	1			
6. Deaths from Tuberculosis				Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population		
(a) Respiratory	2	2	-		0.19	0.16
(b) Other Tuberculosis	-	-	-		-	0.01
7. Deaths from Cancer						
(a) Cancer of lung and bronchus	2	2	-		0.19	0.36
(b) Other Cancer	14	6	8		1.33	1.66
Deaths from Pneumonia	3	-	3			
Deaths from Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polio-encephalitis)	1	-	1			

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

Causes of Death 1954.

ALL CAUSES	Males 51	Females 46
1. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	2	-
2. Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	-	-
3. Syphilitic Diseases ...	-	1
4. Diphtheria ...	-	-
5. Whooping Cough ...	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections ...	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis ...	-	1
8. Measles ...	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases..	-	-
0. Cancer of the stomach ...	1	2
1. Cancer of lungs and bronchus ...	2	-
2. Cancer of breast ...	-	1
3. Cancer of uterus ...	-	1
4. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	5	4
5. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia (cancer) ...	-	-
6. Diabetes ...	-	1
7. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	9	5
8. Coronary disease, Angina ...	10	4
9. Hypertension with heart disease ...	2	2
20. Other heart disease ...	10	10
21. Other circulatory diseases ...	-	2
22. Influenza ...	-	1
23. Pneumonia ...	-	3
24. Bronchitis ...	2	3
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...	1	-
26. Ulcer of the stomach and duodenum ...	-	-
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ...	-	-
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	3	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ...	2	-
30. Pregnancy, child birth and abortion ...	-	-
31. Congenital malformation ...	1	2
32. Other defined and illdefined diseases...	1	3
33. Motor vehicle accidents ...	-	-
34. All other accidents ...	-	-
35. Suicide ...	-	-
36. Homicide and operations of war ...	-	-

There were 17 fewer deaths than in the previous year and e total number was less than 100. This gives a very low crude rtality rate of 8.28 (6.37 corrected). There were three infant aths, one M. aged 6 hours due to atelexis lung, one F. at hours due to Encephalocele, and one F. at 4 months due to congenital abnormality.

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Laboratory Facilities.

These are provided by the Kent County Council's Central Laboratory at Maidstone which gives a complete and satisfactory service for the area.

Ambulance.

An ambulance service is provided by the St. John Ambulance Brigade centred at Ashford and, working under the County Council scheme, gives an efficient and satisfactory service.

Nursing Homes.

The registration of Nursing Homes is a duty delegated to this Authority by the Kent County Council. There is one such home in the area taking 10 medical cases.

Maternity and Child Welfare Services.

The County Council is the authority responsible for these services.

SECTION C.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notifiable Diseases.

Disease	No. of cases Notified	No. of cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	11	8	-
Whooping Cough	39	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-
Measles	1	-	-
Pneumonia	5	1	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	1	1	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	3	3	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	-

The number of cases of infectious disease was generally low but three cases of Acute Poliomyelitis were notified and confirmed and one adult, with the acute bulbar type, died within a short time of admission to hospital. Of the other two one had slight paralysis and the other - an adult - made a complete recovery. These cases occurred during the same period as the cases in Ashford Urban District and West Ashford Rural District and were really part of the same group of cases. Another case, a small boy resident in the area, occurred but was notified outside the district as the child became ill the day after he was taken away on holiday. This case was a severe one and the child is still in hospital receiving treatment for extensive paralysis of both lower limbs - progress is good.

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

TUBERCULOSIS 1954.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths				Recoveries			
	Pulm:		Non-Pulm:		Pulm:		Non-Pulm:		Pulm:		Non-Pulm:	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25.	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
35.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45.	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
age not known	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	2	3	-	1	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	1

Total number of cases on the Register at 31.12.54 = 81

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
umber for 1954	31	30	14	6	81
" " 1953	27	24	13	6	70
" " 1952	24	23	13	5	65
" " 1951	23	23	14	5	65
" " 1950	20	21	15	5	61
" " 1949	19	20	16	7	62
" " 1948	23	17	17	9	66

The number of cases on the Pulmonary Tuberculosis register as again risen slightly, six new cases having been notified uring the year.

mmunisation against Diphtheria and Vaccination against Smallpox.

It is again possible, through the courtesy of the County edical Officer of Health, to give figures relating to these ervices.

mmunisation.

During the year under review 113 children received primary noculations and 140 reinforcing doses. Of the children 0-4 years f age a total of 327 have completed a course of immunisation. he figures are approximately the same as for 1953 and it is isappointing that no improvement has taken place for it means that a onsiderable number of children are unprotected.

accination.

During the year 47 infants of under one year were vaccinated nd of the children 0-4 years 91 had received primary vaccination gainst Smallpox by the end of the year. These figures also approximate o those of the previous year and should be improved.

oad Accidents.

During the year 1954 a total of 145 accidents occurred in the area; n 48 of these accidents injury was caused to persons involved. Four ersons were killed and 24 seriously injured, 81 received slight injury. f the injured 1 child under 5 years of age received serious injury nd four slight injury and of the children aged 5-15 years one eceived serious injury and 15 slight injury. Of the killed none ere residents of East Ashford.

are of Old People.

Several successful Clubs were in being in 1954 and served to bring he old people together for mutual friendship and entertainment. The eginning of a chiropody service was organised and it is hoped that his service will be extended to meet the needs of all.

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

The following sections incorporate the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

SECTION D.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

(1) Water.

A system of water mains exists in every parish of the Rural District and the supply generally is good. During the year 1954 three extensions of water mains were carried out in the parishes of Sevington (Cheesemans Green), Mersham (Jemmetts Lane) and Smeeth (Granary Lane). An extension to Blackwall Road, Hinxhill is commenced and two extensions to Hampton Lane, Brabourne and Old Naccolt, Wye are awaiting completion.

The following is a list showing the number and proportion of houses connected with main water supplies in each parish of the Rural District in 1954:-

PARISH	No. of dwelling houses.	No. of houses connected with:-		
		Mid-Kent Water Co's Mains	Ashford Urban Supply	Folkestone Water Co.
Aldington	265	226		
Bilsington	107	95		
Bonnington	39	36		
Boughton Aluph	223	204		
Brabourne	264	217		
Brook	61	65		
Challock	119	129		
Chilham	433	409		
Crundale	57	61		
Eastwell	41	25		
Godmersham	101	96		
Hastingleigh	78	83		
Hinxhill	22	-	11	
Mersham	244	207		
Molash	92	81		
Orlestone	196	160		
Ruckinge	235	182		
Sevington	60	-	46	
Smeeth	196	184		8
Warehorne	120	105		
Wye	585	483		
Totals	3539	3068	57	8

The Mid-Kent Water Company have monthly bacteriological examinations of the raw water taken from each of their Pumping Stations; all water is chlorinated. Particulars of the examinations and analyses are supplied and there has been no form of contamination. The Ashford Urban Water Supply is subject to routine sampling of the water both for bacteriological (quarterly) and chemical analyses. The reports have been entirely satisfactory.

81 more houses, including new houses, were connected with existing water mains during the year 1954.

89% of the total number of dwelling houses in the district are supplied by public water mains and a very few by stand pipes.

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

) Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

The villages of Wye and Hamstreet are drained and sewered. ller scale sewerage systems also drain parts of Mersham, The are, Chilham and Brabourne Lees. Schemes for new sewerage and age disposal works at Hamstreet and Wye are awaiting decision.

General.

	No. in District	No. of Inspections	No. of defects found	No. of defects remedied
ehouses	7	9	4	4
ries	4	6	2	1
Cream premises	33	9	-	-
ughterhouses	8	121	-	-
er places where d is prepared	9	7	-	-
ensive Trades	1	3	1	1
tories	48	25	-	-

lysis of Nuisances and defects remedied during the year under lic Health and Housing Acts.

fs	14
ls (external	11
mney stacks	6
nwater pipes	6
ters	7
pness	14
l plaster	9
lings	10
ors	10
dows	2
hcords	2
itional lighting and ventilation	-
itional ventilation	--
es	9
king and heating appliances	1
ns, lavatory basins and sinks	14
inage -	
(a) Reconstructed and new	20
(b) Repaired	9
(c) Cleaned	3
tic tank plant and cesspools repair	12
er defects	
's. (a) Renewed	5
(b) Repaired	3
ensive Accumulations	-
ping of Animals	-

al No. of inspections of all kinds during the year...2543
of premises connected to main sewers..... 635
of premises connected to cesspools.....2904
of premises with pail closets..... 972
of premises with earth closets or middens..... 43
of premises not connected to Public Water Supply.... 471
of Statutory Notices served..... 3
of Informal Notices served..... 72
of premises disinfected..... 21

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

Statutory Notices Served.
Under the Housing Acts:-

Notices of Intention to consider the making of Demolition Orders	5
Demolition Orders	3
Notices of Intention to consider the making of Closing Orders	6
Closing Orders	6
Section 9, Housing Act, 1936 (Repairs)	3

Under the Public Health Act, 1936:-

Nuisance Abatement Notices	2
Water Supplies (Section 138)	1
Total	26

(4) Control of Infestation.
Rodent Control.

162 infestations with rats and mice were dealt with by the Council's part time Rodent Operator. Routine baiting and gassing of rats on the Council's three refuse tips was undertaken and satisfactory results obtained. An annual retest of the Council's sewerage systems at Wye, Hamstreet, Mersham and Brabourne Lees gave negative results. There are no large scale sources of rat infestation in the district.

Insect Infestation.

20 infestations with bugs, fleas, ants, cockroaches, flies, wasps, etc. were dealt with partly by the loan of sprayers and powder blowers with insecticides and by the giving of advise on the subject.

(5) Refuse Collection and Disposal.

The collection of house refuse is undertaken by direct labour wi a Dennis 15 cubic yard rear loading barrier type covered refuse vehic having a separate salvage compartment. Two driver/loaders are employed on this work with the occasional help of another operative

The major part of the District is covered by a fortnightly collection, with a weekly collection in the town area of Wye and a four-weekly collection in certain scattered and less populated areas.

Three refuse tips are in use for the disposal of house refuse. t first being near Drylands Farm, Molash, the second at White Hill, Boughton Aluph, and the third at the Kent County Council Quarry, Aldington. Two of these refuse tips consist of large disused chalk pits and the other is the disused part of a rock quarry.

Salvage.

During the year 1954, 103 tons of baled waste paper was sold for £667. 4. 0d., also 1 ton 2 cwts of rags valued at £24. 6. 6d.

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

Emptying of cesspools.

The emptying of cesspools in all parts of the district is ndertaken by the Council twice yearly on written request being made y householders. During the year 1954 the number so emptied was 1,172. his work is carried out by contract.

Emptying pf pail closets.

The emptying of pail-closets is carried out in the parish of oughton Aluph and part of the Parish of Chilham. In the parish f Boughton Aluph the emptying takes place once weekly, by contract, nd the number to be emptied is approximately 69. In the parish of hilham the emptying is carried out twice weekly in an area covering he Square, The Street and the Railway Station and the number to be mptied remains at 30.

SECTION E.

FOOD.

a) Milk.

Apart from producer retailers there are only four retail dairies n the district and none for the wholesale handling or distribution of ilk.

No samples were taken for bacteriological examination.

b) Ice Cream.

33 shops and other premises are registered for the sale or storage f Ice Cream. There are no manufacturers of ice cream in the district.

c) Meat.

Slaughterhouses.

Of eight private slaughterhouses available, five are licenced but nly three are in regular use. Since the re-licencing of private laughterhouses in July, 121 visits were made to slaughterhouses in the istrict. All the animals slaughtered were in prime condition and did ot include any cows or casualty animals.. On eight occasions small uantities of meat or offal were condemned, the total weight being 85lbs,

Carcases inspected and condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and ~~Pigs~~ Lambs	Pigs
o. killed (if known)					--
o. inspected	117	-	26	277	151
ll diseases except uberculosis. Whole arcase condemned	-	-	-	-	-
arcases of which some art or organ was ondemned	2	-	-	10	-
ercentage of the number nspected affected with isease other than uberculosis	1.7%	-	-	3.6%	-
uberculosis only hole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-
arcases of which some art or organ was ondemned	-	-	-	-	1
ercentage of the number nspected affected with uberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.6%

EAST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

Other food preparing places.

There are only a few small establishments of this type in the District and these are visited from time to time; no serious defec were discovered.

SECTION F.

HOUSING.

44 new Council houses were erected and completed in the distri during the year 1954 in addition to 25 by private enterprise. 25 houses were improved and repaired on informal notice - preliminary to formal notice - under the Housing and Public Health Acts.

The total number of post war houses erected to 31/12/54 is 544

Rural Housing Survey.

With the exception of a few scattered houses in the various parishes this was completed in 1947, the total number of houses inspected and recorded being 2,581. Since the completion of the survey many houses have been improved and reconditioned and the present state of re-categorisation is uncertain. The previous total of 305 Category 5 houses has since been reduced by 88 known t have been reconditioned, closed for habitation or otherwise dealt with.

Action under Statutory Powers.

Houses demolished in pursuance of sub-section (4) of Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936.....	3
Number of houses or parts of houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.....	5
Number of houses in respect of which undertakings were given to close for habitation - by the owners under Section 11 (3) of the Housing Act, 1936.....	2
No. of houses repaired and made habitable on notice served under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936.....	3

Hop Pickers Camps.

Little change has taken place in these camps during the year, but improvements in detail have been suggested and adopted.

There are 13 camps, all in the parish of Chilham, and about 649 huts were occupied by approximately 2,000 pickers during the 1954 season. The huts were in reasonably good and weatherproof conditi though some are of the old fashioned type. Water supplies were alm entirely from the main supply and were sufficient for the needs of t pickers. Closet accommodation was mainly of the portable type. Th system of certain families combining to use and keep clean the close which served their portion of the camp worked well where it had been adopted but on the whole the general hygiene of the camps still lef much to be desired. There was again little sense of orderliness, and the refuse receptacles provided were not used as they should hav been; much litter and refuse gave the camps an untidy appearance an there was not enough co-operation between those using the camps.

First-aid Dispensaries continued their good work at certain of camps and were provided by the Church of England Mission to Hop Pick and by the Ashford Branch of the British Red Cross Society,

Inspections of the Camps were made during occupation by the Medical Officer of Health and by the Samitary Inspector. A total of 34 visits were made to the camps during the season.

ELHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

SECTION A.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1954.

EA:	36,685 acres
PULATION:	
e Registrar-General's estimate of the mid year pulation of the District was 9,300. (9188 1953 crease of 112)	
MBER OF INHABITED HOUSES:	2,955
EABLE VALUE:	£59,700
REPRESENTED BY PENNY RATE:	£240 (estimated)
FF:	
itary Inspector and Building Surveyor.	Mr. Robert Finn, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector.
rk and Typist	Miss J. Smee.
use Collection and spool Emptying	4 drivers 6 loaders 2 sewage disposal works attendants.
ent Operator (part time)	Mr. E.C. Piddock

ELHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	M.	F.		Elham R.D.	Engl and
1. Live Births	129	63	66	Birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	14.7	15
(a) Legitimate	121	57	64			
(b) Illegitimate	8	6	2			
2. Still Births	2	1	1	Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	15.2	24
(a) Legitimate	2	1	1			
(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-			
3. Deaths	189	107	82	Death rate per 1,000 resident population	13.3	11
4. Deaths from Puerperal Causes	-	-	-		-	0
(a) Maternal Causes (excluding abortion)	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 (live & still) births	-	0
(b) Due to abortion	-	-	-		-	0
5. Deaths of Infants under one year of age (all causes)	4	3	1	Rate per 1,000 live births	31.0	25
(a) Legitimate	4	3	1			
(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-			
5A. Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age	4	3	1			
6. Deaths from Tuberculosis				Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population		
(a) Respiratory	3	3	-		0.32	0
(b) Other Tuberculosis	-	-	-		-	0
7. Deaths from Cancer						
(a) Cancer of lung and bronchus	7	4	3		0.75	0
(b) Other Cancer	21	11	10		2.25	1
Deaths from Pneumonia	2	1	1			1
Deaths from Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polio-encephalitis)	-	-	-			

ELHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

Causes of Death 1954.

	ALL CAUSES		Males 107	Females 82
1.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	3	-
2.	Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	-	-
3.	Syphilitic Diseases	...	-	-
4.	Diphtheria	...	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	...	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	-	-
8.	Measles	...	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	1	-
10.	Cancer of the stomach	...	4	-
11.	Cancer of lungs and bronchus	...	4	3
12.	Cancer of breast	...	-	5
13.	Cancer of uterus	...	-	3
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms (cancer)		7	2
15.	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	...	1	1
16.	Diabetes	...	-	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	15	19
18.	Coronary disease, Angina	...	19	6
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	-	3
20.	Other heart disease	...	24	25
21.	Other circulatory diseases	...	3	2
22.	Infleunza	...	-	-
23.	Pneumonia	...	1	1
24.	Bronchitis	...	4	1
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	1	1
26.	Ulcer of the stomach and duodenum	...	4	1
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	...	-	-
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	1	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	-	-
30.	Pregnancy, child birth and abortion	...	-	-
31.	Congenital malformation	...	-	1
32.	Other defined and illdefined diseases	...	11	6
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	-	-
34.	All other accidents	...	4	-
35.	Suicide	...	-	-
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	-	-

As St. Mary's Hospital, Etchinghill is in this area all the deaths occurring there are returned as deaths in the Elham Rural District and are included in the above table and in the figure for estimating the death rate.

The infant deaths (under one year) were four in number: one M. aged 11 hours from prematurity, one F. aged 1 week from Congenital Malformations, one M. aged 1 hour from prematurity and one M. aged 1 week from asphyxia.

ELHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Laboratory Facilities.

As in previous years the Kent County Council's Central Laboratory at Maidstone gives a satisfactory and complete service for the needs of the area.

Ambulance.

This service is also under the Kent County Council and is working satisfactorily from the point of view of our area.

Nursing Homes.

The regiatration and supervision of Nursing Homes is carrie out by the Kent County Council as the duties have not been delegated to the Rural District Council.

Maternity and Child Welfare, Midwifery and Home Help Services.

The County Council is the authority responsible for these services. The areas allotted to the County Council Health Visitors do not correspond with the District Council's areas but no difficulties or delays have arisen in dealing with urgent matters.

SECTION C.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Notifiable Diseases.

The following table shows details of diseases notified during the year:-

Diseases	No. of cases notified	No. of cases removed to Hospital	No. of Deaths
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-
Whooping Cough	114	1	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-
Measles	1	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-

The incidence of infectious disease was very low. There was a small epidemic of Whooping Cough in the early months of the year.

ELHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

TUBERCULOSIS 1954.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths				Recoveries			
	Pulm:		Non-Pulm:		Pulm:		Non-Pulm:		Pulm:		Non-Pulm:	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
20.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
35.	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
age not known	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Total	-	2	-	1	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	1

Total number of cases on the Register at 31.12.54 = 66.

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Numbers for 1954	37	23	1	5	66
" " 1953	37	21	1	4	63
" " 1952	37	21	1	4	63
" " 1951	30	18	-	5	53
" " 1950	29	18	-	5	52
" " 1949	28	17	-	6	51
" " 1948	27	22	-	6	55

Immunisation against Diphtheria and Vaccination against Smallpox.

As in other areas the Kent County Council is responsible for these services and the County Medical Officer has again kindly supplied for our use his statistics relating to them.

Immunisation.

The number of children receiving primary inoculations during the year was 116 and 77 received reinforcing doses. A total of 324 children of 0-4 years had been immunised by the end of 1954. These figures show no increase on those of the previous year and mean that about 40% of the children are still not immunised.

Vaccination.

Of the children under one year of age 53 were vaccinated during 1954 and of the children aged 0-4 years 84 were vaccinated during the year. The figures show a decrease on those of 1953.

Road Accidents.

The total number of road accidents occurring in the Elham Rural district during the year was 159 as compared with 142 in the previous year. Of the 159 persons involved no deaths occurred but 34 received serious injury and 56 slight injury, the remaining 69 escaped injury. Of those injured 3 were children under 5 years of age and 9 were children in the 5-15 age group.

Care of Old People.

Several flourishing Clubs have been established in the District and are meeting the needs of elderly persons for entertainment and social intercourse. A Chiropody service has also been established. and Mr. W.F.S. Spendlove gave 100 treatments during 1954 to old people from Elham, Ottinge, Newington and Lyminge, he also gave 82 Physiotherapy treatments to residents of Saltwood.

ELHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

The following sections incorporate the report of the Sanitary Inspector for the year 1954.

SECTION D.

Sanitary Circumstances of the area.

Water Supply.

The quality and quantity of the water supplied by the two Statutory Water Undertakings has been satisfactory throughout the year. All the post-war schemes of extension of mains have been completed and in addition a length of 3" main was laid in the parish of Swingfield.

Approximately 97% of the dwellings in the district have acces to the main supply.

Examination of samples taken during the year.

Type	No.	Bacteriological	
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Raw water (piped)	4	4	nil
Raw water (not piped)	5	2	3
Treated water	21	21	nil
Totals	30	27	3

No chemical analyses were made.

The three unsatisfactory samples were taken from rain water tanks and in each case following informal action, the premises have been connected to the main supply.

85.6% of the total number of dwelling houses in the district have piped supplies of water.

No. of houses with piped water supply at the 31st December, 1954:-

	No. of houses	No. of houses with piped supply		Remarks
		Direct to house	Stand pipe	
Acrise	38	28	nil	Treated water
Elham	450	356	8	" "
Elmsted	116	99	nil	" "
Hawkinge	278	244	nil	" "
Lyminge	492	410	2	" "
Lympne	211	189	1	" "
Monks Horton	39	14	nil	Part treated
Newington	119	95	8	Treated water
Paddlesworth	13	7	nil	" "
Postling	50	48	nil	" "
Saltwood	294	292	nil	" "
Sellindge	279	251	nil	" "
Stanford	146	137	nil	" "
Stelling	68)	87	nil	" "
Stelling Minnis	37)		1	" "
Stowting	62	34	nil	" "
Swingfield	233	195	nil	" "
Totals	2925	2486	20	

ELHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

There is main drainage in the parish of Saltwood only. Fourteen small sewage works treat sewage from Council Housing Estates.

It was still exceedingly difficult to dispose of cesspool refuse, especially during the winter months when all sewage had to be taken to the disposal works at Etchinghill. These works were heavily overloaded.

The Nailbourne, East Stour River and Seabrook Stream were badly polluted in the parishes of Newington, Lyminge, Postling, Sellindge and Stanford.

Proposals in principle are before the Minister of Housing and Local Government for the main drainage of Newington, Etchinghill, Lyminge and Elham.

All cesspools and some pail closets were emptied regularly and as requested, by direct labour. Three Dennis emptiers and six men were employed to carry out this service.

Cesspools were emptied four times a year as a General Rate Charge and emptyings in excess of this number were charged for at the rate of 10/- per load.

2592 cesspools in the district were emptied during the year at a cost of £1.4.10d. per load.

School Sanitation.

C of E Primary School, Saltwood.

The old type trough closets at this school have been removed and modern pedestal W.C's have been installed in their place.

C of E Primary School, Elham

The pail closets in the infants' School have been removed and modern pedestal W.C's and cesspool drainage have been provided.

Brockhill Secondary Modern School, Saltwood.

A summer camp, involving some 100 pupils from various Kent Education Committee Schools, is set up annually in the grounds of Brockhill School. The camp site is occupied for 2-3 months each year.

Sanitary accommodation provided consists of a range of pail closets. Negotiations have commenced with the Kent Education Committee for the provision of an ablution and sanitary block with proper drainage and it is hoped that the block will be erected before the summer camp commences in 1955.

ELHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

3. General.

	No. in district	No. of visits	No. of defects found	No. remedied
Bakehouses	4	7	1	1
Dairies (Retail)	3	4	nil	nil
Ice Cream premises	39	11	1	1
Slaughterhouses	4	173	3	3
Other places where food is prepared or sold	54	69	8	7
Offensive trades	nil	nil	nil	nil
Factories *	32	22	2	2

* Does not include bakehouses.

Summary of visits:-

Food premises and shops	264
Factories	22
Sanitary defects, Housing and Rodent Control	302
Petroleum storage	50
Sampling	54
Building operations and drainage	1092
Building licensing and Town and Country Planning	305
Miscellaneous	284

Nuisances and defects remedied during the year:-

Bath, sinks, etc.	2
Dustbins	4
Cooking and heating	3
Dampness	6
Roofs, R.W.P., chimneys	7
Drainage: Reconstruction	17
Repairs	13
Sanitary accommodation	11
Walls, ceilings and floors	5
Premises disinfected	4
Water supplies	4

Total No. of inspections of all kinds during the year:	2373
No. of premises connected to main sewers	251
No. of premises connected to cesspools	1603
No. of premises with pail closets) Exact figure	
No. of premises with earth closets or middens) not known.	
No. of premises not connected to Public Water Supply	419
No. of Informal Notices served	52
No. of premises disinfected	4

Informal Notices	No. served	No. complied with
Factories Act	2	2
Food and Drugs Act	11	10
Housing Acts	8	6
Public Health Act	25	21
Water Act	4	4
Miscellaneous	2	1

ELHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

Control of Infestation.

Rodent Control.

A part time Rodent Operator was employed and disinfestation was carried out in accordance with the recommendations laid down by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

No. of visits made:	Dwelling houses	1185
	Agricultural	102
	Business premises	80
No. of premises treated:	Minor infestations	204
	Major infestations	8
	Mice	30

Vermin.

One case of bug infestation came to light during the year and was successfully treated with D.D.T. smoke.

Treatments have been carried out on minor infestations of flies and cockroaches.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Collection of domestic refuse was undertaken by direct labour using one Dennis 10 cy. yd. covered collection vehicle. A driver and three loaders were employed on this service.

Domestic refuse collection was carried out fortnightly, except in the village of Saltwood where a weekly collection was made.

Disposal of the refuse was by controlled tipping. Two tips, one in the parish of Stanford and the other in the parish of Swingfield, were in use during the year. The tip at Lympne has been filled and levelled off and will be in agricultural use in 1955.

Owing to the increase in the number of dwellings built in the post war years it became increasingly more difficult to operate an efficient refuse collection service and it is anticipated that it will be necessary to purchase a second refuse vehicle next year.

The cost of refuse collection and disposal for the financial year 1953/54 was £273:5s.:0d. per 1000 population or 10/4d. per cubic yard.

Salvage.

Income derived from the sale of salvaged materials was £192.1.10d. 5 tons 0 cwt 1 qr. of waste paper was collected and sold. The remainder of the income was realised from the sale of scrap metals and mixed rags.

The men employed on the refuse vehicle were paid an incentive bonus of 12% of the income gained.

ELHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

SECTION E.

FOOD.

(a) Milk.

Number of retailers 12
Number of dairies 3

Type of test and milk	No.	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Methylene Blue Test:			
Tuberculin Tested Milk	3	1	2
Pasteurised Milk	9	9	nil
Phosphatase Test:			
Pasteurised Milk	9	9	nil
Biological Examination	6	6	nil
Totals	27	25	2

Nine licences to use the special designation "Pasteurised" and eight licences to use the special designation "Tuberculin Tested" in relation to milk sold retail were in force in the distri

(b) Ice Cream.

No ice cream or iced lollies were manufactured in the district Thirty nine premises were registered for the sale, and storage for sale, of ice cream. Only pre-wrapped ice cream was retailed in th district.

Six samples were taken and submitted to the Pathologist for bacteriological examination. All samples were placed in Grade I and no pathogenic organisms were cultivated.

(c) Meat and Other Foods.

Four private slaughterhouses in the district were licensed. Repairs and improvements were carried out on three of the slaughter-houses.

Carcases inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and lambs	Pigs
No. killed	90	22	53	195	372
No. inspected	90	22	53	195	372
All diseases except tuberculosis Whole carcase condemned	nil	nil	2	5	1
Carcase of which some part of organ was condemned	11	5	2	42	36
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	12.2%	22.7%	7.5%	24.1%	9.9%

(This table is continued on page 11)

EILHAM RURAL DISTRICT.

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and lambs	Pigs
Tuberculosis only Whole carcase condemned	nil	nil	nil	nil	nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	8	3	nil	nil	8
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	8.8%	13.6%	nil	nil	2.1%

The following foodstuffs were surrendered and condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

Home killed beef	315 lbs.
" " pork	239½lbs.
" " mutton	292½lbs.
" " veal	190 lbs.
Misc. tinned goods	37 lbs.

SECTION F.

HOUSING.

No. of inspections	290
Informal notices served (Housing and Public Health Acts)	33
Informal notices complied with	27

Housing Act, 1949.

Nineteen Improvement Grants were made to owners of private dwellings.

Council Houses.

No Council Houses were built during the year, but 30 houses and six old peoples' flats were under construction.

223 dwellings in the district are owned by the Local Authority. This is 7.62% of the total number of houses in the district.

Private Enterprise Houses.

48 private dwellings were erected during the year and 26 were in course of erection.

One additional unit of accommodation was provided by the conversion of a dwelling into two flats.

Slum Clearance.

Mr. D. Jessup was employed, on a temporary basis, to survey all dwellings in the district with a view to bringing the records up to date in preparation for the slum clearance programme.

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

SECTION A.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1954.

AREA: 39,453 acres

POPULATION:

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year population of the District was 10,140 - a slight increase on the 1953 figure (10,070).

NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES: 3,577

RATEABLE VALUE: £49,061

SUM REPRESENTED BY PENNY RATE: £188

STAFF:

Sanitary Inspector	Mr. A.H. Hayes, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., S.R.N., Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector.
Clerk (part time)	Miss M. Walder
Rodent Operator (full time)	Mr. A. Perriss - to March 31st Mr. A. Button - from April 1st
Sewage Works Maintenance Men	Mr. A. Perriss - from April 1st Mr. L. Moore

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	M.	F.		West Ashford R.D.	England and Wales
1. Live Births	140	74	66	Birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	14.6	15.2
(a) Legitimate	130	67	63			
(b) Illegitimate	10	7	3			
2. Still Births	6	6	-	Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births	41.1	24.0
(a) Legitimate	6	6	-			
(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-			
3. Deaths	234	133	101	Death rate per 1,000 resdient population	17.4	11.3
4. Deaths from Puerperal Causes	-	-	-		-	0.69
(a) Maternal Causes (excluding abortion)	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 (live & still) births	-	0.58
(b) Due to abortion	-	-	-		-	0.11
5. Deaths of Infants under one year of age (all causes)	2	2	-	Rate per 1,000 live births	14.2	25.5
(a) Legitimate	2	2	-			
(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-			
5A. Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age	1	1	-			
6. Deaths from Tuberculosis				Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population		
(a) Respiratory	1	1	-		0.09	0.16
(b) Other Tuberculosis	-	-	-		-	0.019
7. Deaths from Cancer						
(a) Cancer of lung and bronchus	7	7	-		0.69	0.36
(b) Other Cancer	24	14	10		2.36	1.66
Deaths from Pneumonia	6	3	3			
Deaths from Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polio-encephalitis)	2	1	1			

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

Causes of Death 1954.

	ALL CAUSES	Males 133	Females 101
1.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	1	-
2.	Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	-	-
3.	Syphilitic Diseases ...	-	-
4.	Diphtheria ...	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough ...	-	-
6.	Meningococcal Infections ...	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis ...	1	1
8.	Measles ...	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases..	-	-
10.	Cancer of the stomach ...	1	1
11.	Cancer of lungs and bronchus ...	7	-
12.	Cancer of breast ...	-	2
13.	Cancer of uterus ...	-	2
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms (cancer)	13	5
15.	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ...	-	-
16.	Diabetes ...	2	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	8	18
18.	Coronary disease, Angina ...	15	5
19.	Hypertension with heart disease ...	5	6
20.	Other heart disease ...	27	26
21.	Other circulatory diseases ...	6	5
22.	Influenza ...	-	-
23.	Pneumonia ...	3	3
24.	Bronchitis ...	22	9
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system ...	2	1
26.	Ulcer of the stomach and duodenum ...	2	-
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ...	-	1
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	1	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate ...	6	-
30.	Pregnancy, child birth and abortion ...	-	-
31.	Congenital malformation ...	-	-
32.	Other defined and illdefined diseases...	9	11
33.	Motor vehicle accidents ...	-	-
34.	All other accidents ...	1	2
35.	Suicide ...	1	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war ...	-	-

The above is an analysis of the causes of all deaths which occurred in the area during 1954, and includes those occurring in the County Hospital, Hothfield, As this is a Home for old people and the deaths are included in those for West Ashford there is a disproportionately high death rate for this area compared with that for East Ashford. It also affects the numbers of deaths from Cancer, Heart diseases and Bronchitis. Again as was the case last year, only one person died from Tuberculosis. There were three deaths from road accidents but of persons non resident in the area, and there were three deaths from other accidents.

Two infant deaths occurred; 1 M. aged 3 months due to acute Broncho-pneumonia and 1 M. 3 days due to Haemolytic disease.

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Laboratory Facilities.

These are provided by the Kent County Council's Central Laboratory at Maidstone. This service is very satisfactory and serves all the needs of the area.

Ambulance.

The area is served mainly by the St. John Brigade Ambulance stationed at Ashford, and working in co-ordination with the other ambulance services, all the needs of the Area are satisfactorily covered.

Nursing Homes and Residential Homes for the Aged.

There are no nursing homes in this area, but there are two private establishments which offer residential accommodation for aged persons.

Maternity and Child Welfare and Midwifery Services.

The County Council is the Authority responsible for these services.

SECTION C.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Notifiable Diseases.

Disease	No. of cases Notified	No. of cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	17	9	-
Whooping Cough	26	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-
Smallpox	-	-	-
Measles	1	-	-
Pneumonia	--	-	-
Puerperal pyrexia	1	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	4	4	2
Food Poisoning	-	-	-

The incidence of infectious disease was low during 1954 but unfortunately a small epidemic of Acute Poliomyelitis occurred in one village, associated with a similar outbreak in Ashford Urban area, five cases were removed to hospital, four were confirmed, all had paralysis and two adults died in the very early stage of the disease. The infant daughter of one of the fatal cases, although remaining perfectly fit herself was found to be carrying the virus in the stools some weeks after the mother's death; every precaution was taken until all danger of contact infection was over. All the cases were members of different households and there were no contact cases. The people of the village concerned showed a high standard of courage and cheerfulness during a very anxious few weeks and co-operated in every way with the public health authority.

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

TUBERCULOSIS 1954.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths				Recoveries			
	Pulm:		Non-Pulm:		Pulm:		Non-Pulm:		Pulm:		Non-Pulm:	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25.	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
age not known	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Total number of cases on the Register at 31.12.54 = 92

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Numbers for 1954	34	42	13	3	92
" " 1953	33	35	12	3	83
" " 1952	30	29	12	3	74
" " 1951	31	29	11	3	74
" " 1950	31	31	12	7	81
" " 1949	30	28	12	7	77
" " 1948	23	26	10	6	65

Only 3 new cases were notified during the year and there were no deaths. But there is again a rise of 9 on the register due mainly to persons already suffering from tuberculosis moving into the area and fewer cases transferring out of the area.

Immunisation against Diphtheria and Vaccination against Smallpox.

We again thank Dr. Elliott, the County Medical Officer of Health, for his courtesy in supplying, for our use, his statistics relating to these two services which are administered by his staff.

Immunisation.

A total of 126 children received primary inoculations during the year under review and 224 received reinforcing doses. Of the children 0-4 years, 324 had been immunised by the end of 1954. This shows a considerably increase on the number of children who received reinforcing inoculations.

Vaccination.

Of the children under one year of age, 32 received primary vaccination and of the children 0-4 years 64 were given their primary vaccination. These figures show no improvement in the number of protected children as compared with previous years.

Road Accidents.

There was a total of 201 road accidents in west Ashford in 1954 and in 85 of these injury was sustained by persons involved; 3 were killed and 25 sustained serious injury and 89 slight injury. Of the seriously injured 1 was a child under 5 years of age and of those receiving slight injury 3 were children under 5 years. Of children in the 5-15 age group 1 was killed, 1 seriously injured and 8 received slight injury.

Care of Old People. See page 14.

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

The following sections incorporate the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

SECTION D.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. Water Supply.

The water supply is derived from the Mid Kent Water Co., wells and springs.

Some 85.8% of the residences in the district have a piped supply of water.

The supply has been adequate generally throughout the district A supplementary main was laid from Pivington to Egerton village to augment the supply. A new 6" main is in process of being laid across the district which, when completed, should give added pressure to the areas where the day time flow is low.

During the year 23 reports on water samples were received of which 11 were routine reports sent by the Mid Kent Water Co. and the other 12 were reports on samples taken by the Sanitary Inspector and sent to the County Laboratory for testing. An additional two samples of water from a private swimming bath were collected and se for examination and were reported unsatisfactory; immediate steps were taken to improve the treatment of the water concerned.

Reports of Samples taken during the year.

	No.	Bacteriological	No.	Chemical
Raw Water	9	1 Satisfactory 7 Unsatisfactory 1 No evidence of recent faecal contamination.	-	-
Treated Water	14	14 Satisfactory	-	-
Total	23		-	

The majority of the unsatisfactory samples were the result of a series of sampling at properties serviced by a private piped supply originating from a spring and storage tank. The properties concerned are 13 houses, two dairy farms and one general farm. The statutory water undertakers have estimated the cost of laying a main in this area to be £1,200 and those who will benefit are being asked to assist with the cost of the work.

Parish	Houses connected during 1954	Total No. Houses on mains Dec. 1954	Metered Supplies	No. House in Parish
Bethersden	-	353	77	458
Charing	5	623	120	697
Egerton	4	199	43	275
Great Chart	58	212	49	280
Hothfield	11	93	22	230
Kingsnorth	14	261	46	304
Little Chart	8	117	28	97
Pluckley	19	297	68	336
Shadoxhurst	6	182	36	204
Smarden	4	307	94	354
Westwell	7	338	72	467
Total	136	2982	655	3702

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

The maintenance of the sewer and disposal plants has been transferred to the Council's newly appointed Architect and Surveyor.

Hothfield.

The sewage disposal works for this area has been completed and is in operation. The sewers have been laid to include the new housing estate, Hothfield village, the Hothfield Hospital and the Tutt Hill areas. All Council houses have been connected to the sewer and owners of private property are co-operating by abolishing privies and cesspools and building water closets.

Egerton.

Ministry sanction is still awaited to modernise this small and outdated treatment plant.

Great Chart and Smarden.

The new works for these two villages are being built and should be in operation during 1955.

Bethersden and Charing.

Plans are being prepared to enlarge and improve the works at these villages.

It is hoped to sewer that part of Charing village from the station to Coppins Corner, install a rising main and pumping station to lift the sewage of this area into the existing sewer.

Charing Heath and Pluckley.

These villages are still the black spots of the area as regards drainage. Complaints from the unsatisfactory systems are received regularly and only the construction of sewers can adequately deal with sewage disposal for these areas.

School Sanitation.

Seven visits were paid to schools during the year. Charing Primary School is having its lavatory and washing accommodation entirely rebuilt and enlarged.

Egerton Primary School still retains the outmoded trough closet system and as soon as the sewage works serving this area has been modernised energetic representations will be made for their replacement with individual closets.

Public Conveniences.

The Charing Convenience has been well used during the year. There has been little or no vandalism to the property with the exception of drawing on walls and the repeated theft of soap. The issue of the latter has been discontinued.

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

3. General.

	No. in District	No. of inspections	No. of defects found	No. of Defects remedie
Bakehouses	5	8	1	1
Dairies	3	4		
Ice Cream premises	39	5		
Slaughterhouses	4	206		
Other places where food is prepared or sold	71	25		
Offensive Trades	1	6		
Factories	56	9	2	1

Analysis of nuisances and defects remedied during the year under Public Health and Housing Acts.

Roofs	5
Walls (external)	2
Chimney stacks	2
Rainwater pipes / Gutters	2
Dampness / Wall plaster	7
Ceilings	4
Floors	2
Windows	7
Sashcords	2
Doors	2
Cooking and heating appliances	2
Baths, lavatory basins and sinks	4
Drainage - (a) Reconstructed and new	13
(b) Repaired	2
(c) Cleaned	5
Septic tank plant and cesspools repaired	9
Other defects:-	
W.C's (a) Renewed	16
(b) Repaired	4
Water supply provided	3

Total No. of inspections of all kinds during the year	1356
No. of premises connected to main sewers	15
No. of premises connected to cesspools	2
No. of premises with pail closets	-
No. of premises with earth closets or middens	-
No. of premises not connected to Public Water supply	-
No. of Statutory Notices served	6
No. of Informal Notices served	88
No. of premises disinfected	20

Inspection of Houses by the Sanitary Inspector.

No. of Houses inspected	77
No. of re-inspections	219
No. of Houses inspected and recorded	9

Procedure under Housing Act, 1936 (Formal)

No. of Houses where offers to modernise have been accepted	2
No. of Houses represented as unfit	9
No. of Houses where Demolition Orders were made	1
No. of Houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	3
No. of Houses where undertaking was given not to re-let	4

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

Control of Infestation.
Rodent Control.

Rodent infestation in the area has been kept down with the regular survey of farms and business premises. Domestic properties have a free service and all requests for treatment are promptly and efficiently dealt with.

The entire systems of sewers were treated during the year and the only infestation was found at Charing. This system is treated at six monthly intervals.

	Type of Property			
	Local Authority	Dwellings	Agricul-tural	All others inc.business
Total No. of Properties	9	3091	343	292
No. surveyed	9	197	72	10
Infestations) major treated) minor	7 2	11 92	14 6	- 6

Refuse Collection.

A fortnightly collection of house refuse and salvage has been maintained throughout the year. The Council are awaiting delivery of a second freighter to help cope with the increased amount of refuse from the addition of approximately 600 Council and 100 Private, houses built since the war. When the new vehicle is in service and the existing machine repaired, the whole collecting system will be reorganized to give the "built up" villages a weekly service and still give the very remote areas their fortnightly one.

Tip.

The Tip has been maintained satisfactorily. The Tip face and surrounds has been regularly treated for rats and mice.

SECTION E.

FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

1.	Registered distributors	14
2.	Distributors Licenced to sell Pasteurised milk	6
3.	Distributors licenced to sell T.T. milk	3
4.	Supplementary Licences issued for Pasteurised milk	4
5.	Supplementary Licences issued for T.T. milk	5
6.	Registered Dairies	3

6 samples of milk were submitted for Biological examination.

All reports indicated that there was no evidence of Tuberculosis.

(b) Ice Cream Premises.

The number of registered premises for the sale and storage of ice cream was 39. Pre-wrapped ice cream is the only sort sold from registered premises.

There are no manufacturers of ice cream in the district.

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

(c) Meat.

With the decontrol of slaughtering in July applications were received for the licencing of four slaughter houses in the district. These are sited at Charing, Pluckley, Smarden and Egerton Forstal.

Before the licences were granted the premises were repaired, modernised and installed with up-to-date equipment.
There has been 100% inspection of meat and 206 visits to slaughter houses were made during the period 2nd July to 31st December.

The staff of the Charing Slaughter house deals with animals from a wide area and only a small percentage of the meat is required for local district needs, the rest is distributed outside the area.

Carcases inspected and condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
No. killed (if known)	150	88	159	493	239
No. inspected	150	88	159	493	239
All diseases except tuberculosis. Whole carcase condemned				1	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	46	31		12	7
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	30.6%	35.2%		2.7%	2.9%
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcases condemned	1	1			
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	20	19			8
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	14%	22.7%			3.3%

DETAILS OF FOODSTUFFS OF ALL TYPES CONDEMNED DURING 1954.

		lbs.	lbs.
Portion of sheep	Pleural adhesions	5	
Casualty sheep	Oedema	50	
2 portions of sheep	Injury	17½	
Carcase of cow	T.B.	600	
Hindquarters of cow	T.B.	97	
2 Forequarters of cow	T.B.	208	
Short forequarter of beast	T.B.	120	
Part forequarters of beast	Abscesses	30	
Part hindquarters of beast	Fractured	135	
Carcase of beast	T.B.	572	
7 Pigs heads	T.B.	84½	
Portion of Pig	T.B.	2½	
" " "	Bruising	20	
			1956¾
Edible offal Condemned in shops	Decomposed	35	
		1976½	

TOTAL 1 ton 15 cwts. 1 qtrs. 13¼lbs.

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

(d) Other food preparing premises.
Bakehouses.

4 bakehouses are registered and in operation. The standard of cleanliness is good.

Restaurants, Kitchens and Food Shops.

These are generally well managed and in the majority of cases the personnel are anxious to achieve a high standard of service and cleanliness.

Public Houses and Licensed premises.

These are maintained in a satisfactory manner. No complaints have been received about the cleanliness of crockery and glass in which food and drink was served, or of unsatisfactory premises, and the methods adopted for washing up is good.

The conveniences at one Public House have been modernised and wash basins fitted and hot and cold water installed.

SECTION F.

HOUSING.

During 1954, 184 Council houses and 6 old peoples Flats were completed and let. In addition 39 houses were built by private enterprise.

The Housing drive has practically emptied the huts at Hothfield Camp and the Camp should be completely cleared by June, 1955.

Housing Applications.

By December 1954, 70 families still remained on the Council's Housing List.

Grants for Improvements.

The Council resolved to impliment the provisions of the above section of the Housing Act and 23 owners have availed themselves of the opportunity to obtain financial assistance towards the modernisation of their properties.

Hop Pickers Camps.

Of the four camps situated in the area only two received the usual compliment of pickers. The two large camps at Pluckley were occupied and both were maintained in a satisfactory manner, scavenging was good, and a Red Cross Centre was open while the camps were in occupation. Only three families took up residence at the Smarden camp and the other was run entirely by local labour.

6 visits of inspection were paid.

Care of Old People.

The needs of old persons in this area were given special consideration by the Council during the year under review and a well attended and representative meeting was held on 19th October at which Mr. Elliott, the County Medical Officer of Health, was the chief speaker. As a result the work being done in the district was publicised and co-ordinated and additional services are being planned.

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

SECTION A.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1953.

EA: 39,453 acres

PULATION:

e Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year pulation of the District was 10,070 - a slight crease on the 1952 figures.

BER OF INHABITED HOUSES: 3,450 (including remaining huts at Hothfield)

EABLE VALUE: £45,614

REPRESENTED BY PENNY RATE: £188

FF:

itary Inspector	Mr. A.H. Hayes M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., S.R.N., Cert. Meat and Foods Inspector.
rk (part time)	Miss M. Walder
ent Operator (full time)	Mr. A. Perris
age Works ntenance Men	Mr. W.A. George Mr. L. Moore

WEST ASHFORD RURAL DISTRICT.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	M.	F.		West Ashford R.D.	England & Wales
1. Live Births	165	80	85	Birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	17.3	15.5
(a) Legitimate	153	74	79			
(b) Illegitimate	12	6	6			
2. Still Births	6	6	-	Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	0.59	0.35
(a) Legitimate	6	6	-			
(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-			
*3. Deaths (excluding non residents registered in the district)	155	87	68	Death rate per 1,000 resident population	11.6	11.4
4. Deaths from Puerperal Causes						
(a) Puerperal sepsis (including abortion with sepsis)	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 (live & still births)	-	0.16
(b) Other Maternal causes (including abortion)	1	-	1		5.8	0.60
5. Deaths of Infants under one year of age (all causes)	2	2	-	Rate per 1,000 live births	12.1	26.8
(a) Legitimate	2	2	-			
(b) Illegitimate	-	-	-			
5A. Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age	1	1	-			
6. Deaths from Enteritis and Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 live births	-	1.1
7. Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	-	-	-	Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	-	0.01
Deaths from Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)	-	-	-		-	0.01
Deaths from Influenza	2	-	2		0.19	0.16
Deaths from Pneumonia	7	7	-		0.69	0.55
Deaths from Tuberculosis	1	1	-		0.09	0.20
*3a. Deaths (including non residents registered in the district)	212	121	91		15.9	11.4